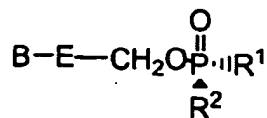


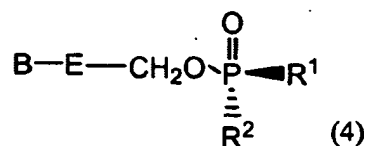
Claim Amendments

Claims 1 - 33 (canceled)

R 1.126 Claim ³⁴~~1~~ (new) A diastereomerically enriched compound having the structure (3)



which is substantially free of the diastereomer (4)



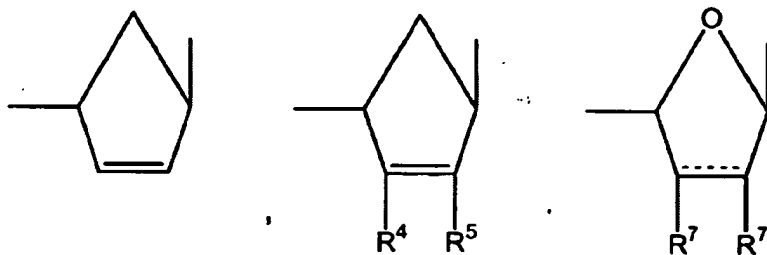
wherein

R¹ is an oxyester which is hydrolyzable *in vivo*, or hydroxyl;

B is a heterocyclic base;

R² is hydroxyl, or the residue of an amino acid bonded to the P atom through an amino group of the amino acid and having each carboxy substituent of the amino acid optionally esterified, but not both of R¹ and R² are hydroxyl;

E is -(CH₂)₂-, -CH(CH₃)CH₂-, -CH(CH₂F)CH₂-, -CH(CH₂OH)CH₂-,
-CH(CH=CH₂)CH₂-, -CH(C≡CH)CH₂-, -CH(CH₂N₃)CH₂-,



-CH(R⁶)OCH(R⁶)-, -CH(R⁹)CH₂O- or -CH(R⁸)O-, wherein the right hand bond is linked to the heterocyclic base;

the broken line represents an optional double bond;

R^4 and R^5 are independently hydrogen, hydroxy, halo, amino or a substituent having 1-5 carbon atoms selected from acyloxy, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylamino and dialkylamino;

R^6 and R^7 are independently H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 hydroxyalkyl, or C_2 - C_6 alkanoyl;

R^8 is independently H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, or are taken together to form -O- or -CH₂-;

R^9 is H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 hydroxyalkyl or C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl; and

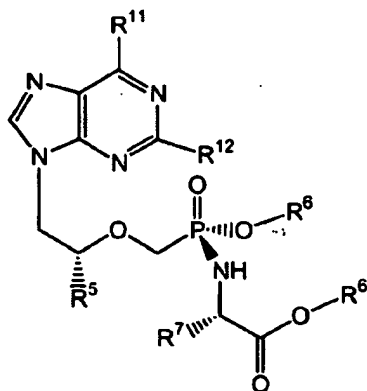
R^{10} is H, hydroxymethyl or acyloxymethyl;

and their salts, free base, and solvates.

35

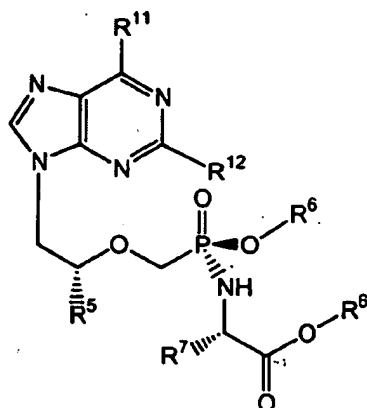
Claim 35 (new) A diastereomerically enriched compound having the structure (5a)

Λ



(5a)

which is substantially free of diastereomer (5b)



(5b)

wherein

R⁵ is methyl or hydrogen;

R⁶ independently is H, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or arylalkyl, or R⁶

independently is alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or arylalkyl which is substituted with from 1 to 3 substituents selected from alkylamino, alkylaminoalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, dialkylamino, hydroxyl, oxo, halo, amino, alkylthio, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, aryloxy, aryloxyalkyl, arylalkoxy, arylalkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, nitro, nitroalkyl, azido, azidoalkyl, alkylacyl, alkylacylalkyl, carboxyl, or alkylacylamino;

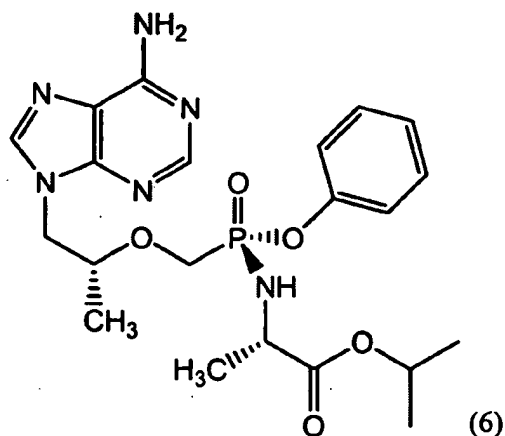
R⁷ is the side chain of any naturally-occurring or pharmaceutically acceptable amino acid and which, if the side chain comprises carboxyl, the carboxyl group is optionally esterified with an alkyl or aryl group;

R¹¹ is amino, alkylamino, oxo, or dialkylamino; and

R¹² is amino or H;

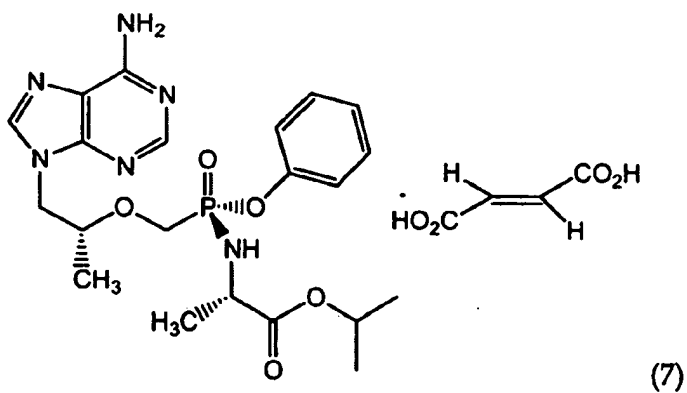
and its salts, tautomers, free base and solvates.

36
 Claim 3 (new) A diastereomerically enriched compound of structure (6)

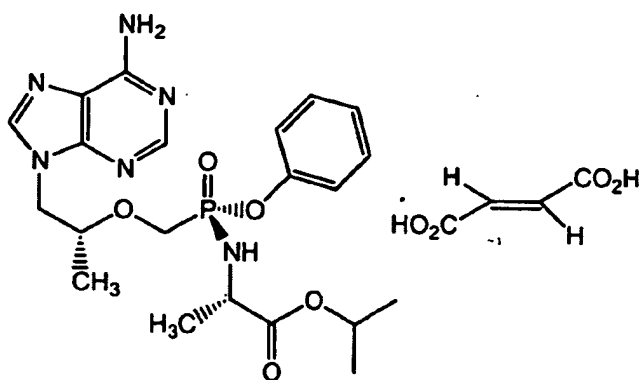


and its salts, tautomers, free base and solvates

37
 Claim 4 (new) A diastereomerically enriched compound of structure (7)



which is substantially free of diastereomer (7a)



(7a)

³⁸
 Claim ³⁸5 (new) A composition comprising a compound of any of claims 1-4 and a pharmaceutically effective excipient.

³⁹
 Claim ³⁹6 (new) The composition of claim ³⁸5 wherein the excipient is a gel.

⁴⁰
 Claim ⁴⁰7 (new) The composition of claim ³⁸5 which is suitable for topical administration.

⁴¹
 Claim ⁴¹8 (new) A method for antiviral therapy or prophylaxis comprising administering a compound of any of claims ³⁴⁻³⁷1-4 in a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount to a subject in need of such therapy or prophylaxis.